

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted claims 1-86 to one of the following groups. Specifically, the Examiner provided the following groups: (Group I) claims 1-18 drawn to a method for assembling tile detectors; (Group II) claims 19-29 drawn to a method for assembling tile detectors; (Group III) claims 30-38 drawn to a method for assembling an imaging structure; (Group IV) claims 39-60 drawn to a method for assembling detector tiles; (Group V) claims 61-72 drawn to a method for assembling detector tiles; and (Group VI) claims 73-86 drawn to a method for assembling detector tiles.

Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's reasons for restriction, Applicants elect to prosecute claims 1-18 of Group I *with traverse*. For example, the Applicants object to the Examiner's rejection on the ground of a lack of "serious burden" on the Examiner. As set forth in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, the criteria for a restriction requirement include: (1) the inventions must be independent or distinct, and (2) there must be a serious burden on the Examiner. *See* M.P.E.P. (Rev. 2, May 2004) §§ 802.02 and 803. Specifically, the Applicant stresses that:

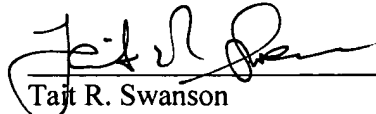
If the search and examination of an entire application can be made *without serious burden*, the examiner *must* examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Id. at § 803. After careful review of the present application, the Applicants emphasize that examination of all pending claims would not be a burden, much less a "serious burden," on the Examiner. If the Examiner reviews the claim recitations in more detail, then the Applicants believe that the Examiner will agree that the pending claims can reasonably be examined without need for the foregoing restriction requirement. The Applicants also emphasize that "[p]iecemeal examination should be avoided as much as possible." M.P.E.P. (Rev. 2, May 2004) § 707.07(g), Page 700-122. For these reasons, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement and examine all pending claims.

If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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